

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/698,765

Applicant(s)

KOROVIN, NIKOLAY N.

Examiner

Sylvia R. MacArthur

Art Unit

1763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the examiner-initiated interview of May 9, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17 and 24.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 31 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date herein.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David Benson on May 9, 2005. The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for performing a process on a workpiece surface, comprising:
a platen having a top surface, and at least one inlet configured to receive a polishing fluid;
a plurality of holes formed in said top surface;
a manifold system in fluid communication with said at least one inlet and each of said holes;
a controller adapted to supply valve command signals; and
a plurality of valves, [each valve] with one of said valves being disposed in [one] each of said holes and coupled to said controller to receive said valve command signals and being operable, in response thereto, to selectively move between an open and a closed position.

10. (Currently Amended) A platen for performing a process on a workpiece surface, comprising;
a top surface having a plurality of holes formed therein;

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at least one inlet configured to receive a polishing fluid;
a manifold system in fluid communication with said at least one inlet and each of said holes; and
a plurality of valves, [each valve]with one of said valves being disposed [proximate one] in each
of said holes and being adapted to receive [said] valve command signals from a controller and
operable, in response thereto, to selectively move between an open and a closed position.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for performing a process on a workpiece surface,
comprising:

a platen having a top surface, and at least one inlet configured to receive a polishing
fluid;

a plurality of holes formed in said top surface;

a manifold [means]system in fluid communication with said at least one inlet and each of said
holes;

controller means for providing valve command signals; and

valve means for controlling said fluid in each of said holes individually and separately and
disposed [proximate] in each of said holes, said valve means being coupled to said controller
means for providing valve command signals, and being operable, in response thereto, to
selectively move between an open and a closed position.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a platen having a plurality of valves
disposed in a plurality of holes in the top surface of the platen.


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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sylvia R. MacArthur whose telephone number is 571-272-1438. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F during the core hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh can be reached on 571-272-1435. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Sylvia R MacArthur
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1763

May 11, 2005


PARVIZ HASSEZADEH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER